AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of gas at present available from Andhra Pradesh unit-wise;

(b) what is the quantity of gas supplied daily to the State for power generation; and

(c) what is the quantum of gas that will be needed daily for power generation in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The recoverable reserves of natural gas in K.G. Basin as on 1.7.1988 are 2.5 million cubic metres in the onshore region and 1.4 billion cubic metres in the offshore region.

(b) and (c) 0.4 MMCMD of gas has been committed to APSEB for their proposed gas based power project. They are expected to draw gas in the second half of 1989.

Spurious LPG Plant at Karnal

1305. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a spurious LPG plant was unearthed at Karnal recently;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter and

(c) what steps have been taken to ensure that the LPG refills delivered to the consumers contain the correct measure of LPG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) All LPG filled cylinders are checked for correct weight and also cross-checked at the bottling plants before despatch to distributors. LPG distributors are also under strict instructions to ensure correct weight of LPG cylinders before making delivery to the consumers.

Steps to strengthen the Industrial base in Punjab

1306. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Punjab 66 Blocks out of the total of 118 Blocks are 'No Industry Blocks' as per the criteria laid down by the Central Government;

(b) what steps have been taken to attract greater investment in Punjab in order to strengthen the industrial base of the State; and

(c) whether certain benefits of backward areas provided to the border district of Amritsar have been extended further; if so, upto what date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) District as a whole and not Block, has been taken as unit for identification of No Industry District.

(b) The Districts of Hoshiarpur, Sangrur and Bhatinda have been identified as Category 'B' Industrially Backward Districts and Ferozepur and Gurdaspur Districts have been placed in Category 'C'. Amritsar District has also been allowed the facilities of Category 'C' as a special case. The entrepreneurs setting up industries in Category 'B' and 'C' Districts are eligible for grant of Central Subsidy at the rate of 15 per cent and 10 per

cent subject to maximum of Rs. 15 lakhs and Rs. 10 lakhs respectively.

(c) the capital incentive subsidy scheme which was valid till 30.9.1988 is currently under review. Other benefits continue to be made available.

Setting up Growth Centres for Industrialisation of Backward Areas

1307. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to revise the on-going scheme for setting up growth centres for the industrialisation of backward areas in the country;

(b) if so, whether under the new scheme 100 growth-centres would be set up;

(c) what is the period fixed for setting up such projects;

(d) what are the places where these projects are likely to be set up; and

(e) to what extent the industrialisation scheme have been revised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (e) Government have decided to set up 100 Growth Centres all over the country which will act as magnets for attracting industries. It is expected to take up the projects for setting up these growth centres over a period of five years. The places where such growth centres will be set up will be decided in consultation with the State Governments concerned.

Capital blocked by the sick industrial units

1308. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sick units in the country has gone up seven times since 1980;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that there is an estimation of about Rs. 30 crores worth capital being blocked by these sick units;

(c) if so, what are the total sick units in the country till date and the total amount blocked by these units;

(d) what are the steps being taken by Government to remove the sickness in the industrial sphere; and

(e) whether any concrete proposals are being considered by Government, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNOCHALAM): (a) to (c) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks in the country are collected by the Reserve Bank of India. As per the latest information available from RBI the total number of sick units as at the end of June, 1987 are 1,59,283 and the amount outstanding against them is Rs. 4222.69 crores whereas there were 23,740 sick units as at the end of June 1980 and amount outstanding against them was Rs. 1744.62 crores.

(d) and (e) Some of the major steps taken by the Government of India for the revival of sick industrial units, are as follows:—

(i) The Government have enacted a comprehensive legislation